

SECRETARY'S RECORD, NEBRASKA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

BEFORE THE NEBRASKA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In the Matter of the Nebraska ) Application No. MR 1009/  
Public Service Commission, on ) PI-70  
its own motion, initiating an )  
investigation on range )  
uniformity in the Official )  
Intracity Household Goods ) ORDER SETTING TARIFF  
Tariff 22, and to develop )  
procedures for efficiently )  
processing household goods )  
mover tariff amendments. ) Entered: May 25, 2016

BY THE COMMISSION:

On January 28, 2003, the Nebraska Public Service Commission (Commission) initiated this investigation of the range uniformity in the Official Intracity Household Goods Tariff and to develop procedures for efficiently processing household goods mover tariff amendments. The Commission set a process for it to determine, on an annual basis, whether any adjustment is to be made in the household goods movers Tariffs 7 and 22.

On January 20, 2016, the Commission sent out affidavits and set the matter for hearing. Eight affidavits were returned from the industry. A hearing was held on April 6, 2016. Mr. Mark Breiner and Ms. Jamie Reyes appeared for Commission staff. Three individuals made statements on behalf of their respective companies: Mr. Jeff Nogg on behalf of I-GO Van and Storage Company, United Van Lines; Mr. Tyler Whalen on behalf of Two Men and a Truck, Omaha; and Mr. Jason Christenson on behalf of Two Men and a Truck, Lincoln.

E V I D E N C E

Mr. Jeff Nogg made a statement on behalf of I-GO Van and Storage Company, United Van Lines. Mr. Nogg also serves as president of the Household Goods Movers Division of the Nebraska Trucking Association. Mr. Nogg explained that the tariffs had not been increased since 2011, and that the industry plans to be consistent moving forward with reviewing the tariff every year. Mr. Nogg recommended that the tariffs be increased by 20 percent, adding that the recommended increase would still not be enough to make intrastate rates equal to interstate rates.

Mr. Tyler Whalen made a statement on behalf of Two Men and a Truck, Omaha. Mr. Whalen stated that the volume of services provided by the moving industry is projected to grow at .9 of a

percent in 2016. Mr. Whalen stated that his business is mainly applied to local Tariff 22, and proposed that carriers have the ability to set their own pricing for packing containers and file those process with the Commission. Mr. Whalen also proposed that a local rate for Omaha be increased from \$40 per unit to \$44 per unit. Additionally, Mr. Whalen recommended that, instead of overtime rates on weekends, companies be allowed to file their own percentage of rate increase for moves scheduled for Friday through Sunday with the Commission in order to create an even schedule. Finally, Mr. Whalen recommended that overnight storage fees be increased from \$108.00 to \$150.00 in order to adequately cover the cost of insurance, storage, and rental of an additional truck while a truck is out of service for overnight storage use.

Finally, Mr. Jason Christenson made a statement on behalf of Two Men and a Truck in Lincoln. Mr. Christenson recommended that the Tariff 22 in Lincoln be raised 15% and that Lincoln's tariff rate be included with Omaha instead of the remainder of the state. Mr. Christenson also recommended the elimination of sales pricing for packing containers and materials and that carriers be allowed to set their own pricing for these items. In regards to overtime, Mr. Christenson suggested that companies have the option to charge time and a quarter, time plus 15%, or a flat dollar amount per unit as alternate pricing options for weekend moves.

#### O P I N I O N S   A N D   F I N D I N G S

The eight affidavits received and entered into the record as Exhibit 2 indicate that certain costs for companies have increased, such as wages, operational insurance, and packing materials. The Commission agrees that, based upon the affidavits and testimony, an increase in both Tariff 7F and Tariff 22 is appropriate as the tariffs have not been increased in some time. Other suggestions, such as amending the labor charges to include Lincoln with Omaha and allowing companies to set the pricing for packing containers and materials, warrant further consideration before any changes would be made.

From the evidence adduced, and being fully informed in the premises, the Commission is of the opinion and finds that the tariffs should be increased by nine percent (9%) effective June 1, 2016 as follows:

1. Official Household Goods Tariff 7F should be amended as follows:
  - a. Increase all rates and charges nine percent (9%) rounded up to the next ten cents (\$0.10).
  - b. Increase the Warehouse Handling Charge for Storage-in Transit to \$3.90/cwt.
  - c. Increase the Storage Charge to \$3.40/cwt.
2. Official Household Goods Tariff 22 should be amended as follows:
  - a. Section 3, Item 1000, Labor Charges:
    - i. Omaha area: \$25.00 to \$44.00
    - ii. Nebraska outside of Omaha: \$20 to \$40.00
  - b. Increase Section 3, Item 1100, Packing Container Charges nine percent (9%) rounded up to the next ten cents.
  - c. Increase Section 4 Transportation Rates, Optional Packing Charges Labor Rate charge per container nine percent (9%) rounded up to the next ten cents.

O R D E R

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED by the Nebraska Public Service Commission that, effective June 1, 2016, Official Household Goods Tariff 7F be, and is hereby, amended as follows:

1. Increase all rates and charges nine percent (9%) rounded up to the next ten cents (\$0.10).
2. Increase the Warehouse Handling Charge for Storage-in Transit to \$3.90/cwt.
3. Increase the Storage Charge to \$3.40/cwt.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that, effective June 1, 2016, Official Household Goods Tariff 22 be, and is hereby, amended as follows:

1. Section 3, Item 1000, Labor Charges:
  - A. Omaha area: \$25.00 to \$44.00
  - B. Nebraska outside of Omaha: \$20 to \$40.00
2. Increase Section 3, Item 1100, Packing Container Charges nine percent (9%) rounded up to the next ten cents.
3. Increase Section 4 Transportation Rates, Optional Packing Charges Labor Rate charge per container nine percent (9%) rounded up to the next ten cents.

IT IS FINALLY ORDERED that the process adopted by the Commission be followed for 2017 on the following timeline: The

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adopted affidavit will be sent out to all certificated carriers by January 20, 2017, and should be returned to the Commission by February 24, 2017. The Commission will hold any necessary hearings in March or April, 2017.

ENTERED AND MADE EFFECTIVE at Lincoln, Nebraska, this 25<sup>th</sup> day of May, 2016.

NEBRASKA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

COMMISSIONER CONCURRING:

*Donald L. Vap*

*Tim Schram*

Chairman

*Crystal Landis*  
*Reg Johnson*

ATTEST:

*Jeffrey L. Puley*

Executive Director

//s//Frank E. Landis  
//s//Tim Schram